

Simeon Terry received this honor, in part, for his work as Minority Business Enterprise Program Administrator for Austin Commercial L.P. which is headquartered in my district. He is well known for his efforts to build minority business enterprises (MBE) that promote the inclusion of minority and women entrepreneurs in the Dallas business community while enhancing growth opportunities for minorities and women.

Simeon's background consists of a degree in Industrial & Safety Engineering and over 15 years in the construction industry. He has spent 7 years in the residential construction industry as a Safety Manager, Project Manager, and Operations Manager. In each position he had the opportunity to procure contracts with MBE firms both in specific construction scopes and supplies.

During his term as a Project Manager, over 80 percent of his contracts were established with MBE firms. Simeon also spent 3 years as a Surety Support Program Manager Consultant where he assisted MBE firms in becoming "bond ready", ultimately achieving bonding which would allow them to pursue various construction projects as prime contractors.

He also facilitated safety workshops for small MBE firms and provided consulting to review or establish their in-house safety programs to ensure that they had met the required safety programs for commercial construction. Simeon has consulted on numerous housing development projects in Dallas for non-profit organizations. He assisted local MBE contractors with project management and project administration duties such as estimating, scheduling, document control, certified payroll and project inspection.

Simeon is actively involved in his church where he teaches youth Bible Study, and plays the bass guitar for several choirs. He is also an active member of the National Society of Black Engineers, the National Society of Black MBAs, and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Mr. Speaker, this Nation's small business community needs more giving individuals like Simeon Terry. His work has contributed much to making Dallas a better place to live for everyone.

I am proud to represent him in the U.S. House of Representatives and wanted to bring his many accomplishments to the attention of my colleagues.

JEWISH COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL'S DISENGAGEMENT

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, just before we adjourned, the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Boston issued a very thoughtful statement in support of the disengagement by Israel from the Gaza Strip, and the dismantling by the Israeli Government of Israeli settlements in that area.

Mr. Speaker, this was a very wrenching process for many in Israel, and the willingness of the Government of Israel—supported by a majority of the people of Israel—to engage in this withdrawal with all of its difficult emotional strains speaks highly of that country's willingness to take steps for peace.

The withdrawal from Gaza should not be the last action taken in this process, but it is unreasonable to expect that they will be able to take further actions in the absence of a showing by the Palestinian Authority of its willingness and ability to respond in kind to this disengagement.

The statement of the JCRC is a first rate statement of what should be done going forward, and it is an appropriate expression of support of a majority of the Jewish Community of Greater Boston for a peace process that is thoughtful, balanced and prudent. I ask that this important statement be printed here.

JEWISH COMMUNITY EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL'S DISENGAGEMENT PLAN

Nancy K. Kaufman, Executive Director and Susan A. Calechman, President of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Boston issued the following statement today regarding Israel's plans to disengage from the Gaza Strip and communities in northern Samaria.

The JCRC fully supports Prime Minister Sharon and the government of Israel as they begin implementation of the Gaza disengagement plan. Israel's vigorous democracy is taking bold and courageous risks in an effort to protect her security and to renew the process of resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. We also support the Israeli government's effort to resolve the conflict through a negotiated two-state solution as expressed in the Road Map. Final borders and other final status issues must be left to the parties themselves to negotiate in a peace process free from violence and the threat of violence.

Disengagement will only lead to a peaceful outcome if there is a commitment on the part of the Palestinian leadership to put an end to terrorism. We call upon the Palestinian Authority (PA) to disarm the terrorist groups and their infrastructure. This includes removal of existing stockpiles of weapons and preventing such stockpiles from being rebuilt; preventing the smuggling of weapons; closing of clandestine weapons manufacturing and preventing attacks, especially during the disengagement process. The future of peace, and the stability of the PA itself, is fully dependent on it taking this action.

We recognize the profound sacrifices being made by the families who are being relocated, some after living in their homes for nearly 30 years. The loss of their homes, synagogues, farms, businesses and schools is an immense sacrifice which should be recognized with efforts made to bridge any gaps that develop among Israelis as a result of this effort.

We condemn the rhetoric of a tiny extremist fringe that promotes violence as a response to policies undertaken by the democratically elected Israeli government. At the same time, the rights of free speech and lawful dissent which are basic and indispensable in a democratic society must be protected. It is critically important that those with differing views of the peace process condemn explicit hate speech, venomous language, and threatening words. It is also important that discussion among all the conflicting viewpoints be created to promote an atmosphere in which differences can be expressed with civility and respect.

We call on the U.S. government to continue its work with Israeli and Palestinian leaders to ensure that all commitments are met and that a resolution to this conflict leads to a secure peace for both sides.

HONORING STEPHANIE FOTI
BELLIAN FOR HER EXTENSIVE
COMMUNITY SERVICE AND DEDICATION
TO THE PEOPLE OF
CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, this article is from the obituary section of the Jamestown Post Journal.

STEPHANIE BELLIAN

AUG. 30.—Stephanie Foti Bellian, 36, of 38 West Virginia Blvd., died Sunday (Aug. 28, 2005) in her home.

She was born March 28, 1969, the daughter of Sebastian "Busty" Foti and the late Shirley Walz Foti.

She was a 1987 graduate of Jamestown High School, attended Jamestown Community College, graduate from the University at Fredonia in 1991 and earned her master's degree from St. Bonaventure University. She was assistant director of continuing education at Jamestown Community College where she also taught psychology.

Active in the community, she was involved with the Chautauqua Leadership Network, Society for Human Resource Management, and the Great Empire Zone Board of Directors. She was also involved with the Southern Tier West Human Resource Committee, the Girl Scouts of Southwestern New York Policy Committee and volunteered with Hospice of Chautauqua County.

She will be sadly missed by her sister-in-law, Karen Foti, her nephew, Nicholas Foti and her brother-in-law, Joe Samaritano.

Besides her father of Jamestown, she is survived by a brother, Scott J. Foti of West Seneca; a sister, Stacey Samaritano of Hamburg; and her paternal grandmother, Josephine Foti of Jamestown.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Thursday in St. James Catholic Church. The Rev. Robert Stolinski, parochial vicar, will be celebrant. Burial will be in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

Friends will be received from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday in the Hubert Funeral Home where a Christian Burial Service will be held at 8:30 p.m.

Memorials may be made to the Humane Society, 2825 Strunk Road; or Hospice of Chautauqua County, 4840 West Lake Road, Mayville, N.Y., 14757.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of this amazing woman.

HONORING LEROY E. LYON, JR.

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to remember and honor an outstanding citizen, Mr. LeRoy E. Lyon, Jr., from Granite Bay, California. Following a lifetime of dedication to God, family, and community, he died of a heart attack in his home Sunday, July 17, 2005. He was 84 years old.

LeRoy was born on Dec. 4, 1920, in Anaheim, California. His father, LeRoy, Sr., was a respected orange grower who served on the Orange County Board of Supervisors. This heritage led him to a career in public service as well.